

GRANDVIEW HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMENTS 9/28/2010:

- Anger expressed
- Concern about “panel” (board) and current implementation of district
- Concern about what can and cannot be done – impact on housing values
 - o Estate examples and value loss
- Are standards Wenatchee standards or federal standards
- Need definition of what it is – what are the standards
 - o Interior / exterior review?
- Definition of what is needed for special valuation
- Definition of time needed for steps (approval of changes)
- Need understanding of historic district upon purchase in district
 - o What is a Historic House and How Does a Citizen Know
- Confusing and vague language
 - o It needs to be simplified and put in layman’s language
- What needs review – landscaping / retaining walls?
- Property owner options for being in or out of the district – establishment of boundaries
- Is the District perpetual?
- Supportive of District and protection of neighborhood from commercial intrusion
- Simpler plan
- Protection of curbside appeal
 - o Worry about standards “traveling to alleys, etc.
- Guidelines were “ loose” from vote to ordinance, somewhere between the rules went from beyond the exterior of the home
- Neighborhood did not vote current stringency
- Need to understand current ordinance language
- Need understanding of procedures for disbanding – unless thing can be simplifies
- Worry about process to make changes behind closed doors
- Next steps
 - o Review of draft plan: review on several evening s – make available
 - o Fall => Spring timeline
- Requirements for membership for historic preservation board
- Code enforcement fines can be levied
- Vinyl windows are an issue
- Permitting process that take time and preclude real estate transactions
- Accessibility to regulations
- Consistent application of regulations
- Ability to evolve and provide for future changes in guidelines and procedures
- Identify best communication routes
- Consistent enforcement – not overbearing
- 112 N. Cleveland sidewalk replacement
- Chose home of the historic district

- Could there be a board / review committee separate from the HPB and made up of residents of the neighborhood
- Define role of board
- Specifics:
 - o Repairs can be made with like materials
 - o No HPB review for anything that does not require a building permit
 - o Administrative process for those things that don't need HPB review but may require a permit
 - o Clear understanding of rules by staff – to answer questions when calls come in
 - o Acknowledgement of neighbors during meetings and process
 - o Window needs headed into winter – emergency needs
 - o Property rights back
- TJ Comments (More comprehensive in letter)
 - o We want our:
 - Vinyl Windows
 - Metal Roofs
 - Satellite Dishes
 - Repair or put up fences allowed by code
 - Roof replacement
 - No more comments about “then move”
 - Common, modern materials without review of HPB
 - o 50 letters, 30 visits, many emails
- Need to develop trust between residents and HPBoard
- Code language is difficult to decipher
- But code is protection for neighboring properties
- Nebulous list of materials – needs to be defined and clear
- Suggestions to go back to the intent and simple guidelines of this area we want to preserve
- Also, with respect and without malice / name calling
- Definition of secretary of interior standards
- After going through process:
 - o Materials
 - o Timeline
 - o Administrative Review
 - o Tax benefit guidelines
- E-Mail Address on website
- Need process for submitting comments
 - o Synopsis of meeting out to residents
 - o What method besides mail, Grandview district need e-mail addresses
- Alternatives for products that are not made any more
- Tree that is old
- Addition of retaining wall
- Every homeowner should receive